

January 22, 2011

Phil North
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Mr. North,

As an Alaskan resident for nearly thirty years and a commercial fisherman for nearly twenty six years, I am compelled to join the voices of those standing up against the proposed Pebble Partnership.

Nine Native Corporations have stood up in opposition to the Pebble Partnership along with Alaska's Renewable Resources Coalition, Trustees of Alaska, Trout Unlimited and Alaska Marine Conservation Council as well as a myriad of voices ranging from the late Governor Jay Hammond and first lady Bella, the late Ted Stevens and former Alaska State Senate President Rick Halford, to mention only a few. Preserving Bristol Bay is paramount for future generations to come. The Pebble Mine will stand in the way of the long-term prosperity of the region and the Pebble Partnership would have us believe that short-term prosperity that the mine will present is in our best interest.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources released its current Bristol Bay Area Plan in 2005, which reversed decades of balanced resource management in favor of mining development. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reclassified its entire 12 million acres opening these lands to mining and reducing habitat protections by 94%.

The state of Alaska currently has little say in preventing not only Pebble, but other possible projects in this region as well. My hope is that this will change in the near future, but in the mean time all concerned should turn to the Federal Government, specifically the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and request to immediately initiate a section 404(c) initiative that gives local residents the opportunity to work with the EPA to safeguard Bristol Bay's renewable resources, its habitat, and the health of its peoples. I say no to the Pebble Partnership and ask that we work hard and fight to protect all of Bristol Bay.

Sincerely,

Terry Sevy
Alaskan Fisherman

Exemption 6 - PII

